



## Wit and Humor.

## THE HORSE.

Ike Partington is well advanced in his class. He is in some things beyond the teacher's art, and could, in fact, give that functionary some lessons in art where he is imperfect. The sketches "composition," where a theme is given out to be written upon by scholars, and his credits are not very great for his efforts in that direction generally; but the other day he astonished the master and even the horse, by sketching an elaborate article on the horse. He was called upon to read it aloud to the scholars, and on getting upon the platform, he said:

"The Horse.—The horse is a quadruped with four legs, two behind and two before. He has a tail that grows to the hind part of his body, that nature has furnished him with to drive the flies away. His head is situated at the front, and opposite his tail, and is used principally to fasten a bridle to his head, by, and to put into a basket to eat oats with. Horses are very useful animals, and people couldn't get along very well without them, especially truckmen and omnibus drivers, who don't seem to be half grateful enough because they're got 'em. They are very convenient animals in the country, in vacation time, and go very fast over the country roads; when the boy stick flies to them, a species of cruelty that I would not encourage. Horses are generally covered with red hair, though some are white, and others are gray and black. Nobody ever saw a blue horse, which is considered very strange by naturalists. The horse is a quiet and intelligent animal, and can sleep standing up, which is a very convenient gift, especially where there is a crowd, and it is difficult to get a chance to lay. There is a great variety of horses—fast horses and slow horses, fleas horses, horse mackerel, saw horses, horse flies, horse chestnut, chestnut horse, and horse radish. The clothes horse is a very quiet animal to have around a house, and is never known to kick, though very apt to make a row when it gets capricious. The same may be said of the saw-horse, which will stand without tying. The horse fly is a vicious beast, and very annoying in the summer when a fellow is swimming. Horse mackerel I don't know anything about, only they swim in the water, and are a species of fish. Horse-chestnut was the annoying custom of that street, to whom to spin and try to force him to purchase. At last one dirty-looking fellow caught him by the arm, and clamorously urged him to become a customer.

A CLEAN NEIL.—A shrewd countryman was in New York the other day, gawky, uncouth, and innocent enough in appearance, but in reality with his eye-teeth cut. Passing up Chatham street, through the clothes quarter, he was continually stopped by men, who implored him to buy, from almost every store across the street, something with the annoying custom of that street, to whom to spin and try to force him to purchase. At last one dirty-looking fellow caught him by the arm, and clamorously urged him to become a customer.

"Have you got any shirts?" inquired the countryman, with a very innocent look.

"A splendid assortment, sir. Step in, sir. Every price, sir, and every style. The cheapest in the street, sir."

"Are they clean?"

"To be sure, sir. Step in, sir."

"Then," resumed the countryman, with perfect gravity, "put on one, for you need it."

The rag of the sheep keeper may be imagined, as the countryman, turning upon his heel, quietly said:

"I should be glad to have you stop and preach for me to-morrow, but I feel ashamed to ask you."

"What is the matter?" asked Moody.

"Why, our people have got into such a hold of going before the meeting is closed, that it seems to be an imposition on a stranger."

"If that is all, I mean and will stop and preach for you," was Moody's reply.

WHEN THE SABBATH DAY CAME, and Mr. Moody had opened the meeting, and named his text, he looked around on the assembly, and said:

"My hearers, I am going to speak to two sorts of folks to-day—saints and sinners! Sinners! I am a going to give you your portion first, and would have you give good attention." When he had preached to them as long as he thought best, he paused and said: "There, sinners, I have done with you now; you may take your hats, and go out of the meeting-room, as soon as you please."

But all hurried and heard him through.

"Who's Axe Is It?" Will you give me a glass of ale, please?" asked a rather social-looking person, with an old but well-brushed coat and almost too shiny a hat. It was produced by the bar-tender, creaming over the edge of the tombs. "Thank ye," said the recipient, as he placed it to his lips. Having finished it right off at a swallow, he snatched his lips, and said,

"This is very fine ale—very; whose is it?" "It's *Harmans' ale*," said Harmans' ch'f!

Well, give us one more glass," said Harmans' ch'f; and holding it up to the light, and looking through it, the connoisseur said, "For my word, it is superb ale—superb" clear as Madera. I must have some more of that! Give me a mug of it!" The mug was furnished; but before putting it to his lips, the imbler said, "Where did you say this was?" "Harmans'," replied the bar-tender. The mug was exhausted, and also the vocabulary of praise; and it only remained for the appreciating gentleman to say, as he wiped his mouth and went towards the door, "Harmans' ale, is it? I know Harmans very well; I shall see him soon, and settle with him for the two glasses and a mug of his incomparable brew—*Knick-knocker*.

A TAPROOM-Keeper, who resides in a neighboring town, and is a frequent customer of old Ben's bar, was much annoyed by swarms of red ants, which, by dint of their perseverance, made their home with his sugar. As he was one day waiting on a traveller, the landlord, in no measured terms, expressed his indignation against these little pests of industry, adding, that he would give a generous sum to be effectually rid of them. Upon this the traveller said: "Sir, I can tell you they may be destroyed in a very short time, without any expense." "Well," said Boniface, "let me know how, and I will pay it instantly." "You must kill all the ants," replied the traveller, "to drive them away; you go into the bar for something to drink—and my word for it, you'll make an end of them in less than a week!"

IN THE pine barrens of Michigan, not a thousand miles from Grand Rapids, but four miles away from any other dwelling, is a miserably shabby log shingle, bearing the following sign:—

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Who always keeps his promises;

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A NEW VERSION OF AN OLD PROVERB.—An Irish captain of a small schooner wanted a mate. An applicant came, and as a proof of his capability that he had served with Capt. So-and-so.

"Och! phat do I care for that?" said Captain Pat, "sure, an' isn't one man's trash another man's poison?"

## SEEING THE ELEPHANT.

A friend tells us of a rich incident that occurred the other day in the court-room at Franklin, in which the prudential attractions of the elephant are very forcibly illustrated. It seems that, on the day in question, a manager was expected in the city, and the people were naturally on the qui vive for the approaching sight—an interest in itself as the novel news, his Honor the Judge locally participated. Notwithstanding, the Court was held on that day, though not exactly as usual. In the progress of the morning, however, a circumstance arose, which the Judge was evidently not at all inclined to favor. His countenance, indeed, grew absolutely stern with disfavor. The lawyer in charge, having regard his place with all the ingenuity and ability at his command, was at length in the act of pleading the point in defense, when a brother lawyer, especially up to snuff, rose and whispered into his ear that the manager had arrived, and the elephant would soon cross the river! The suggestion was big with reprobation. Brightening with hope, the wily lawyer at once drew himself up decisively, and, addressing the Court, said: "May it please your Honor, I have in this moment learned that the Great American Manager has reached this city, and the elephant will immediately cross the Kentucky river! The people, I am informed, are already thronging upon the banks to witness the extraordinaryfeat."

The hit was palpable. The intelligence of Buchanan's election could hardly have brought a more wonderful change in the hearing of his Honor. His stern countenance at once relaxed into the most general complacency, and, in a tone of genuine excitement, he remarked, "Gentlemen, grant this confidence, and, adjudge, the Court, I never have seen an elephant swim a river, and, as I am an old man, it isn't likely that I'll ever have a better opportunity. The Court's adjourned!" The last thing our friend saw of the Court, it was making for the river at a speed never contemplated by the Life Insurance Company. Verily, there's no resisting the elephant!—*Lonesome Journal*.

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MISTER YOUNG.—Oh, Pa, Ma says you haven't left any money for groceries and marketing during the week you are to be gone.

TRAVELLER.—That? No! Well, here, give mother this quarter-dollar.

## Agricultural.

## CONDITION OF HORSES.

Condition is a term generally understood, but hardly ever applied in its strict significance.

In the mouths of the trader, the gentleman, the stableman, the dealer, and the carter, it is used with strict propriety when appealing to the animal which each in his own sphere has to deal with. But takes beyond this sphere, each will pronounce the horse the other prizes, out of condition. Yet the word so often used, and in the mouth of everybody, must have some meaning.

Condition implies the highest possible state of health compatible with the purposes to which man seeks to put a horse. It is a state of health so fine, that it borders on disease, and animals kept in condition for any length of time (as judiciously tended) are safe to be attacked by disorders.

The trainer, to attain condition, endeavors to promote the absorption of every particle of bone tissue or fat; to have the muscles and tendons in their highest working order; and the nervous system in a state of energy which too often disappoints the hopes of him who induces it. This is, on the race-course, called perfect condition.

The gentleman likes to behold his hunter much in the state of the rouser, only, as the animal has to endure every variety of weather, and is exposed to carry its rider for a day rather than for a few minutes; he can permit, perhaps, a slight amount of flesh which would be deemed superfluous in the racer. This is the gentleman's opinion, an excellent condition.

The stableman likes the horses under his care to carry a fair quantity of flesh, to be gay, but not too sprightly, to have glossy coats, and altogether to appear after a fashion that may captivate his mistress's eye; and this when brought about is, to his mind, admirable condition.

The dealer, to behold his stock so fat, as to be unfit for long or even actual work, but fat enough to render the body round, so as to conceal every defect. Fed up to the point of excitement, but like drunks, unable to maintain it long. Very fresh for the few minutes they are taken out of the stable to be shown, but with lungs that would hardly permit them to frolic for a long period. With their coats blooming, their manes and tails nicely combed, and with their hoofs freshly oiled. This, in his judgment, is excellent condition.

The carter wishes his horse to carry as much and as fresh as possible, thereby to increase his weight, and enable him to pull heavy loads. To obtain the means of doing this he employs various nostrums, and not infrequently crimps from his master's granary. When he has made his team to repeat, he, with pride, pronounces them to be in a beautiful condition.

Thus condition in horses, though applied in different senses, yet, when properly considered, means always the same thing. The horse is intended, by the word, to be in an unnatural or forced state, up to the requirements of an army master's will; but, when carried to extremes, not in such a condition as is altogether incompatible with the creature's enjoyment of existence, or directly equal to a state of health which promises prolonged life.

WARNING FROM A FARMER.—Put into a pan a knot of real, two fine corn ears or two calves' feet, two onions, a few cloves, peppers, berries of alpine roses, and sweet herbs; cover them with water, then tie a thick paper over the pan, and set it in an oven for three hours. When cold, cut off a half square, remove the meat and feet, add an onion and a half square, remove the bones and coarse parts, and then put the rest on a bone, with a large spoonful of walnuts and one of marmalade, cover half a pint of water, and boil over a fire; then strain it through a napkin or sieve, add sugar, and serve with lemon, and a sprig of mint.

WARMING FOR THE FEET.—Take one pound of salt and a pound of unpeeled garlic, mix them well, then strain them through a napkin or sieve, add a few drops of oil of lavender, and a few drops of oil of camomile, and strain again.

WARMING FOR THE TEETH.—Take a small quantity of pepper, nutmeg, and saffron, mix them well, add a few drops of oil of lavender, and strain again.

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## THE LOCUST.

Voice of summer, hidden from the eye  
In the tiny tree's given green.  
Every insect—shall again, again!  
Break with sunshine—free of work and care,  
Happy older, while the world is fair,  
Held to us by the sun's own care.  
Pain of insects to soothe our pain.

What is better than that voice of thine?  
Locusts, the summer's little fine.  
Through the instant chambers of the brain,  
Bursting with the summer's sunny glare,  
Shining dust and glistening shimmering air,  
Shine of leaves, bright suns, and desert bane,  
In the scene struck of thy brain.

Through the blinds are shot, and all the room  
Brought softly in a cool, half glow.  
The stillness voices of the summer world sing—  
With the singing of the birds, the wind,  
And the murmur of the grape spray, twined  
Round the balcony, with every wind.  
Moves across the easement at its wings.

Ah! how sweet that dear Italian tune  
Thou art singing!—the hunting horn  
Dreams the shepherd by the ruined tomb—  
With the song of the swallows, while the sun  
Bursts the walls' stone chest nibbling sleep,  
And the hunted game rear up and prey.  
Then the rifle and beyond the poppy's bloom.

In the fields the peasant feels the sun  
Beating more dolorously down.  
While they stagger—as the passing stags,  
Burst high in the grass, or hid between  
Trailing vines, the summer's suns are won,  
Trailing them, all their thick-laden green,  
Flushing purple grapes with double hands.

In the villa, checkered sun and shade,  
Spat the bushes, mossy-green boughs,  
And a silver network over the rail,  
Plashes from the basin's quivering sides—  
Through the grass the sudden lizard slides  
Up the wall—and shade with tremulous shade,  
Glimmering in his green enamelled seal.

Now the sun the wavy-streak meteor rolls,  
From the east, the rising red eye,  
And dashes the summer's suns with skin with wine,  
Now the glinting orange drops and break—  
Apples strain their light and shining cheeks—  
And the smooth, green, lily leaves take  
In the sun in the cutting vine.

Childhood's voice is in thy very clir;  
Older summer memories than can efface—  
Golden, like the sun; we no more shall see;  
That which was thine, is thine, and thine alone,  
To the wonderer's heart, who dying lies,  
From home, and to his closing eyes  
Summons up his last felicity.

What he reads again the garden ground  
With his children, first once patred round;  
Where the clustering blossoms twain—  
While, rustic on the flowerly stalk,  
He sits in the shadow of the black,  
Listening to the tones of angry talk.  
As they struggled in the troubled bower.

When the sunshower's shield of leaves and gold,  
Falls on the summer day and balm,  
Tropics on the tall, cumbered stems;  
There the curdine hang their ruddy boudies—  
There the low-globes the hyacinths spread—  
There the pink pinks the odor sheds  
From the painted petals' fragrant hem.

And a little hand, in his own  
Where warm presence never more is known,  
Was it not in his bosom, when he died,  
There a silent rose, when he was shrined,  
And the cushion figure of a boy,  
Through his dying eyelids sees the sun.

Chilly ever, then, longer summer grows,  
But the sun, like every human heart,  
Summer visitors, early memories—  
Till thy pretty wings, and let us here  
Through the noon's intense atmosphere,  
Thy fair clarion sounding shrill clear  
Praise of summer idleness and ease.

—Poems by W. W. Story.

## MURDER AND THE MICROSCOPE.

FROM CHAMBERS'S EDINBURGH JOURNAL.

Amongst the immense number of alterations and improvements which have late years taken place in the mode of administering the criminal justice of the country, perhaps none are more remarkable than those which have reference to the examination of scientific witnesses, when called upon to substantiate the guilt or innocence of an accused person. A few years ago, it was the common opinion that the testimony of such witnesses ought to be regarded with a great deal of caution, if not of absolute distrust. We have ourselves heard people, who should have known better, say "that circumstantial evidence was bad enough, but scientific evidence worse; and that, if upon a jury, they would certainly throw over board the testimony of scientific witnesses as to the guilt or innocence of the prisoner." Towards the formation of these opinions, scientific men themselves unintentionally contributed, a mass of science, in the witness-box, being in those days very different from the same person in everyday life. If a witness for the prosecution, could give evidence, valuable to the common-sense bystander, and every pity act of the prisoner in some way made a fresh link in the chain which led the miserable wretch to the scaffold, while, on the contrary, if it were upon the prisoner's behalf he gave his testimony, the unimpeachable proofs of guilt were explained in a manner perfectly consistent with, and indeed supporting, the prisoner's innocence. Of course, in such evidence there was an immense difference, and a considerable number of educated judges and learned persons used, fully unmeaning to the unprofessional man, the consequences of which eventually was, that the unprofessional man treated the evidence as he deemed most other things to be not understood—that is to say, he looked upon it with contempt, and pronounced it nothing worth.

All this is very much altered in the present day. Justice that evidence is now and then given by unscrupulous men, for certain purposes, so entirely opposed to our common sense, as to bring some amount of odium on science generally; but such cases are not of very frequent occurrence. The cause of this great change is owing to the dissemination, amongst all classes, of a knowledge of many of the data upon which scientific witnesses found their opinions. Questions as to the opinion of such witnesses were formerly the only ones put; whereas, such questions are now always accompanied by others as to the reasons for forming such opinions. It is, in general, by a counsel had venture to ask a medical man, while in the witness-box, upon what authority he formed his conclusions, the witness would immediately have backed himself up by an appeal to the doctrine propounded by Hippocrates, Galen, and a dozen other of his illustrious predecessors—the other better. At the present day, such authorities have, to a great extent, been supplanted by others of quite a different description, most of whom have arisen during the last few years, and have in their revelations taught as important truths hitherto un-

discovered. One of the most remarkable of these authorities is the Microscope.

Of course, the evidence which this instrument affords in all those cases where it is appealed to, is entirely circumstantial; but it is circumstantial evidence of the most important description. It may tell us that certain human rust upon a knife or scissor is blood—and more, that it is human blood; it may acquaint us with the nature of a piece of poisonous matter wholly invisible to the naked eye, and which would therefore, without its assistance, have entirely escaped detection; and so in numberless ways may the instrument fill up a blank in the evidence, which would otherwise have been wholly insufficient to convict or to exonerate a prisoner.

We will take, as our first illustration, the case of a man named Monroe, tried at the Cumberland spring assizes in 1855, for wilful murder. The fact of the murder having been committed by some one, and the manner in which it was accomplished, were both perfectly clear. The murdered man had been waylaid in a lonely spot; his throat had been divided from ear to ear, and his body thrown under a hedge. The murderer, whoever he was, had doubtless committed the horrible act for the sake of about thirty shillings, which the deceased, the paymaster of a colliery, had in his pocket at the time.

Circumstantial evidence of the most intricate character was produced against the prisoner. He had been seen in a field near the spot; he had changed a half sovereign shortly afterwards, and had attempted to disguise himself; it was suggested that he had been carrying a pistol to carry the whole of his whisks. These and many other facts were deposed to, and occupied nearly two days in the trial; still, in them, taken individually or collectively, there was nothing to warrant a conviction. But now came the evidence of the microscope. A learned microscopist was called, to whom there had been previously submitted a pair of corduroy trousers and a razor, both known to have been in the possession of the prisoner at the time the murder, by whose hand sooner committed, took place. On these trousers, after a most careful examination, the witness said he had discovered several small spots, the largest being not so large as a walnut; the microscope revealed to him that these spots were human blood; and, from their peculiar shape and appearance, he stated confidently that they were formed by small streams of blood spiriting upward from the divided artery of a living body. On examining around each of these spots, he discovered traces of soap and evident signs of the spots having been attempted to be washed out, while over one or two of them it had been carefully spared. On the blade of the razor there was some rust; on the ivory handle, a smear of blood, which also turned out to be human. Of course, a vast number of questions were asked in cross-examination, in order to test the credibility due to the assertion that these spots and stains were human blood, that assertion being grounded on the detailed measurement of those minute bodies called corpuscles or globules, which constitute the coloring matter of blood. As to this, however, the evidence of the witness was altogether unshaken—the corpuscles found in human blood are each of them about the 1-200 of an inch in diameter, and differ more or less in size from those of any known quadruped—those of the sheep being but 1-7000 of an inch, &c., &c.

What could be said against such evidence as this? Here was a razer washed with blood—blood, too, being on the handle; trousers, with spots of human blood upon them, which it had been attempted to eradicate by washing and covering with ink. Coupled with the other evidence in the case, it was irresistible—a verdict of guilty was found, and the man was executed.

In the next case we will mention, the value of the microscope as an agent in the detection of crime was still more strikingly shown, although, from certain causes, the prisoners escaped the punishment which no reasonable person could doubt he justly merited.

At the Chelmsford spring assizes, 1852, C——— was put upon trial for wilful murder. The circumstantial evidence, by which it was attempted to bring the gall to the prisoner's door, was even more complicated than in the last case; but although, without the scientific evidence, it was sufficient to raise against him a grave suspicion, the trial was altogether unshaken—the corpuscles found in human blood are each of them about the 1-200 of an inch in diameter, and differ more or less in size from those of any known quadruped—those of the sheep being but 1-7000 of an inch of the dog, 1-3542, &c.

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## GLANCES AT MY LAST CRUISE.

WRITTEN FOR THE SATURDAY EVENING POST,  
BY AN OFFICER OF THE NORTH PACIFIC  
SURVEYING AND EXPLORING EXPEDITION

### HOW WE VISITED THE VILLAGE.

"My last letter was chiefly devoted to the different formations about the coal strata in general, and the 'peasant boat-jack mixture' in particular, and now I will leave it. Talibar and his dogs, strenuous digging away at its goliath-like strength, and carrying away with the tools and the dead and myself as we started to follow the winding bank of the small river that emptied into the bottom of the hook at high water, and which at low tide ran a mile or more on the flats of sand hook, until it finally reached the sea at the imaginary line previously spoken of.

This hook, as I have already said, in a previous letter, formed an inner harbor at high water, and an extensive mud flat where the tide was down, and as the river widened its channel considerably while running over it, thus decreasing its depth in proportion, there was no difficulty in crossing in a straight line from the coal mine to the opposite village at low tide. In the present case, however, we determined to follow the river up into the mountains, in the hope of crossing the track of some bear or other game, and finally visiting the village on our return. So we left this latter on our right and the coal mine in our rear, and trudged along through the soft and spongy turf, and over the rugged tufts of ridges that ran down and terminated at the river, until we had pretty well tired ourselves out, and arrived, not at the mountains, but at the conclusion that we had walked along the boggy bank quite long enough, and that if we expected to visit the village and get back to the ship before night, it was full time for us to be turning back, and "string our stamp." So we took advantage of the first fordable part of the river to wade across, and soon found ourselves climbing the hills on the opposite side.

From the top of these hills we now looked towards the village over a treacherous expanse of undulating land, whose broken surface was covered with a dense but dry turf in which the foot sank over the ankle at every step, and whose occasional ravines were hidden by groves of dwarf pines, and twisted, and turned, and twisted itself in such a manner as to render it anything but an easy matter to work our way down, over, and up to the opposite heights. Still even that was better than the muddy, spongey walking along the river's bank, and so we continued on over the yielding turf and through the tangled grass, until we had crossed the last ravine, and ascended to the extensive prairie-like plain, upon the sea-ice of which the mud-like houses of the village were located.

We had not walked many hundred yards over this beautiful carpeting of grass, before our attention was attracted by a shout upon our starboard quarter, and upon turning in that direction, we beheld a party of five persons, among whom we recognized Vel Lager and another of our messmates, while the remaining three were buckskin clad savages, who apparently had been pressed into their service as guides. These latter we found to consist of a father and two sons, the former of whom carried a smooth-bore rifle, to which was attached a permanent rest in the shape of a wooden prong pivoted at its vertex to the stock near the muzzle, while in his belt was stuck a short knife, and down his right leg, outside in a socket worked in his leggings, a very long one. His sons were rigged out in a similar style, with the exception of having no gun, and they gave us to understand that when the old gentleman would wound a bear with his gun, they drew their long knives to assist him in the conflict which followed. The short ones they used for cutting and eating.

As they joined us we regarded them curiously as they did us, for they were the first of their kind we had seen, though we had read much of their habits, and seen many engravings of Kamtschadals, in such works as Dr. Pritchard's *Natural History*. I was surprised to find them differing entirely from those engravings, and my surprise lasted until we reached Ayas when "old Fyback" explained it all away.

"The Kamtschadals," he said, "were mostly confined to the interior and east coast of the peninsula, while the few people found on the west coast (where we were) were a mongrel breed springing from Russians and the Es-ah-ahs Indians, and presenting the Ethnologist with a most puzzling diversity of features and general appearance."

These particular three whom we now joined, and in fact all of those whom we subsequently encountered in the village, were of ordinary stature, flat featured, and of a sallow, olive complexion; and that is about all that I can say of them. They were dressed in loose garments of reindeer skins that had been well cured, with the hair inside, and the red and polished buckskin turned outside to bid defiance to everything in the shape of briars and almost to old Time himself. It was difficult to imagine how such clothes could ever wear out, so preserving a polish had they received from the combination of dirt and grease with which they seemed to be brought in constant contact.

Their trousers and boots—or rather, I should say, moccasons—were made in one, and a musk-frock-like garment came down half way to the knee, and was confined around the waist by a buckskin belt. This frock was provided with a hood which usually hung down the back, but which could be banded over both head and face at the pleasure of the wearer. When thus digged out they were cold proof, and in fact water proof also, as long as they did not wade through water that was more than waist deep. Some of their clothes were sewed with wax thread, obtained probably years back from wandering whalers, while others were more perishably, but with equal neatness and far greater strength, stitched together with threads drawn from the sinews of the reindeer or mountain elk.

Although our examination of the companions of Vel Lager was so very close, it was not a whit more so than theirs of us. They mixed with us in perfect confidence—drank a glass of brandy with undubt'd gusto,—and then commenced to examine our clothes, bags, weapons, &c., &c. What surprised them most, and excited their admiration to the highest pitch, was the fineness of the grain of our powder, which the father of the party could not cease comparing with his own, asking by signs if we had any to give away. We gave him to understand in return that we would give him a capful of it, if he would shoot as a moose-hail and bring it.

"Though they had but few mistakes on us from themselves, to themselves—'tis their own. Then I was surprised to see how well the French were known, and how easily the English were unknown. —France is above— they would say—French as good—but we could not get a word, or even a look from them when speaking of the English.

on board, upon which he danced around in the deck, shouting with a shout of frenzy, and then, in a fit of狂喜, I suppose, when he had in a manner recovered his composure, informed us that as soon as he could get a horse in from the country, he would mount him and ride away, after which we might soon expect to see him returning with a book on bald horse's shoulders. His manner of explaining to us that he was talking about a horse, was simple in the extreme. He only straddled the fore fingers of his left hand with the fore and middle finger of his right hand, weighed every horse-like, then cracked his mouth, and finally laborated an imaginary animal most unmercifully, with his hide covered heels.

After all this we went on to inform us that he should be perfectly contented when he should have come possessed of so much powder, that it would certainly last him to his grave, and that when it was gone he would be willing to die. He never fired more than once at a deer, he said, and throwing himself on the ground flat on his face, he planted his forked root firmly, showed us how he aimed the deer towards him, how he took aim, motioned us to imagine him covered with bushes so that he could not be seen, and having satisfied us fully on all these points, received his fire with the agility of a monkey, and followed us as we walked towards the village.

As we approached this latter, a number of shaggy dogs barked and howled at us as they recognized the smell of man. They looked at each other for a moment, and then Gen. Jackson moved forward, and reaching out his long arm, said—"How do you do, Mr. Adams? I give you my left hand, for the right, as you see, is devoted to the war; I hope you are very well, sir." All this was gallantly and heartily said and done. Mr. Adams took the general's hand, and said, with chilling coldness—"Very well, sir; I hope Gen. Jackson is well?" It was curious to see the western planter, the Indian fighter, the stern soldier who had written his country's glory in the blood of the enemy at New Orleans—genuine and gracious in the midst of a court, while the old courier and diplomat was stiff, rigid, cold as a statue! It was all the more remarkable from the fact, that four hours before, the general had been defeated, and Mr. Adams was a victor in a struggle for one of the highest objects of human ambition. The personal character of these two individuals was in fact well expressed in that chance meeting; the gallantry, the frankness and the heartiness of the one, which captivated all; the coldness, the distance, the self-concentration of the other, which repelled all. A somewhat severe but still acute analyst of Mr. Adams's character, says:

"Undoubtedly, one great reason of his impopularity, was his cold, antipathetic manner, and the suspicion of selfishness it suggested, or, at least added greatly to confirm. Adams, however, was in fact well expressed in that chance meeting; the gallantry, the frankness and the heartiness of the one, which captivated all; the coldness, the distance, the self-concentration of the other, which repelled all. A somewhat severe but still acute analyst of Mr. Adams's character, says:

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BUREAU OF THE SECRETARY OF THE  
TREASURY.

The Report of the Secretary of the Treasury embraces, besides the regular material of such reports, a review of the financial policy of Mr. Fiske.

During the last fiscal year, the receipts into the treasury were \$72,318,141.16, being in excess of the estimate, which was \$67,917,784.20. With the balance in the treasury from the previous year, the aggregate of all available funds amounted to \$2,386,117.17. The expenditures of the year reached \$22,945,720.02, being in excess of the estimate, which was \$21,228,846.91. The balance in the treasury at the close of the fiscal year was \$1,340,398.65, against a previous estimate of \$15,228,863.96. The actual and estimated receipts of the current year reach pretty much the same figure as above, and calculate on a balance of \$2,386,117.17, being in the treasury on the 30th June, 1857.

The national debt, on the advent of the Administration, was \$69,127,957.27, and was subsequently increased by the sum of \$75,000,000, to the amount of \$144,127,957.27. The debt of \$67,917,784.20 has since been reduced to the sum of \$66,999.64. In addition, however, we have a liability, under Indian treaties, amounting to \$1,066,361.36, which, as before parate, constitutes an additional item of expense, and is estimated for by the Interior Department.

Much of the report is speculative on the demand and supply of various kinds of goods, and the progressive domestic products of the various kinds of labor, all of which have reference to the Secretary's views in favor of a reduction of the tariff on imports, which he again presses upon the attention of Congress. He especially favors the removal of the duties on wool and cotton.

The annual statement shows an aggregate of \$26,449 maritime tonnage, which is less than the previous yearly statement. But this is accounted for from the fact of there having been a change in the method of computation for years, the correction of errors, etc. The revised statements of former years show a regular progressive increase with our commerce and population.

The annual gold and silver output of the U. S. Mint, since its establishment in 1793, has been \$34,714,114, and the entire import of gold and silver since 1840 has been \$20,565,443, and the export \$45,567,534; there being no account of the latter.

There are 130 State banks, with a chartered capital of \$44,000,000, and a circulation of nearly \$200,000,000. The Secretary does not deem it desirable to dispense with them, but says that the time has come when they must be withdrawn. The Superintendent of the Mint estimates the gold and silver remaining in the country at \$20,000,000, while the Secretary estimates it at \$25,000,000. The report devotes much space to the consideration of currency, banking, and kindred subjects.

POST OFFICE REPORT.

It appears on the Postmaster General's Report that the number of post offices in the Union is 2,325, and that the average annual remittance is \$100 per annum, and the Postmasters are appointed by the President, subject to the confirmation of the Senate. The total compensation of Postmasters was, for the first six months of the year, \$1,000,000, and the mail route contractors was \$6,372, of mail agents 394, and of mail messengers, 1,106. The mail was carried over 20,325 miles by railroad, over 14,351 miles in steamboats, over 1,325 miles in coast steamers, and 135 miles by inland conveyances. The cost of transportation for each mile travelled is, by railroad, 10 cents; by steamboat, 20 cents; by coach, about 7 cents, and by inferior conveyances, nearly 8 cents per mile. The post office expenses were \$1,000,000, and the rest of the year, including the salaries of agents and messengers, but excluding the ocean services, is \$6,372.

The Postmaster General refers to his complaint of the large sum paid to Panama for mounting for the last fiscal year to \$14,300, and of the first quarter of the current fiscal year to \$14,300. He recommends as set limiting the amount to be paid for that service of \$50,000, and an appropriate sum for the next quarter, monthly, via Nicaragua and Tehuantepec, giving with the Panama route, a weekly mail to California.

The annual expense of the Postoffice for the last fiscal year was \$16,405,290. The entire revenue, including the annual amount of \$70,000 for mail service rendered the Government, was \$7,620,821, showing a deficit of \$2,787,049, which considerably exceeds the average of the preceding three years.

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The Postmaster General recommends that the ocean steamer mail service be diversified as to make the terminal at other cities as well as New York.

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF THE  
INTERIOR.

The quantity of the Interior's Report states the quantity of land since the last Report, and up to the 300th of September last, at 46,729,000 acres, exclusive of state and national forests. The creation of the Geodetic Survey has aroused many grave questions, which call for the interpretation of Congress. He says it is an important matter, and should be promptly disposed of. The Interior's Report also contains the action of the Land Office, or directs the patents to be issued without written requirement.

The quantity of lands sold for cash during the fiscal year amounted over nine and a quarter acres, and the receipts thereof are \$2,514,140. The aggregate amount of land disposed of is over 35,000,000 acres.

He suggests the necessity of further power being granted to the Commissioners of Patents to stamp out the practice of patentees in the sale of their lands, and after having got a man, made his knife, and after having got it graduated, he was enabled with great exactness to calculate the eclipses of the sun and moon, also the changes of the moon throughout the year, to hours, minutes, and seconds. About the age of thirty, he became a master of the art, and was while following that occupation that he learned the art of dialing, an art in which we question if ever he was excelled by any dialist in the north of Scotland.

A DIAMOND MIFLER.—The New York Mining Magazine states, that during a lecture on Mineralogy, at the Free Institute, England, Capt. Mifler, of the U. S. Army, said that the importance of being able to ascertain the scale of hardness of minerals, related a circumstance that occurred to a gold digger. When working at the diggings he found a rock crystal, and, thinking it was a man's nail, he took a strong desire for it. After some time, a man's nail was found, and his knife, and after having got it graduated, he was enabled with great exactness to calculate the eclipses of the sun and moon, also the changes of the moon throughout the year, to hours, minutes, and seconds. About the age of thirty, he became a master of the art, and was while following that occupation that he learned the art of dialing, an art in which we question if ever he was excelled by any dialist in the north of Scotland.

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REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF NAVY.

The Report of the Secretary of the Navy gives a detailed view of the operations of the Navy during the last year, and its present strength.—Among his recommendations are, for another squadron in the Pacific, rendered necessary by our extending commerce; for small steamers to the coast of the Pacific, on which small steamers will be sent to the islands on which Commodore Merritt made an unsatisfactory report. The Secretary regards the construction of six steamers as indispensable to our naval force, and his former recommendation, that the Indians within our borders be suppressed to number about 300,000.

The process of the colonization of the Indians has already been attended with the happiest results, and gives promise of steady progress in the amelioration of their physical and moral condition.

THE JEWISH FORTUNE.—The Richmond Whig states that the result of the discussions on the subject of the Indian title, in this family, is something like a scission, and precludes all hope of any share in the great English estate. Bishop Meade, who has been collecting materials for a history of the Episcopal church in England, holds that the Indians are the descendants of the lost tribes of Israel.

He is said PROTESTANTISM is gaining ground in France rapidly. Protestantism in France has increased, and now numbers one million, making a population of one thousand at least. They have four schools, with four hundred pupils. Two churches are insufficient, and there is said to be a great demand for additional places of worship. There are three others, and there are five thousand Protestants in France.

THE CALIFORNIA PAPER says that a man, named Wiers, a Swede, who has recently been exhibiting a number of rattlesnakes, and who is a native of the States, has fractured his hand, so that he could not prevent them from biting him, was severely bitten by one of them upon the finger, at Sacramento, a few days since. He immediately drank four bottles of brandy, and went to bed, and his hand soon recovered. He is well to-day, and his whole body, except his hand, is perfectly indolent. He thinks he will recover, and says he is satisfied that the snake did not intend to bite him, and that if he does recover, he shall continue his experiments and exhibitions. While confined to his bed, he has a young rattle-snake with him all the time.

TERrible SNOW STORM IN THE NORTH.—The storm of Tuesday, Dec. 2nd, was very severe along Lake Superior. Many buildings were swept away, and damaged, &c. In many places snow fell to the depth of six feet. The railroads were blocked up. The brig Snow King and Algonquin, and the schooner Wellman were wrecked within sight of Milwaukee. All the boats were saved, and the passengers from Buffalo are secured, and fears are entertained for their safety. Many shattered vessels were arriving at Milwaukee.

WADDOCK A TIDELESS EMPIRE.

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